

Jonathan O. Peña, Esq.  
CA Bar ID No.: 278044  
Peña & Bromberg, PLC  
2440 Tulare St., Ste. 320  
Fresno, CA 93721  
Telephone: 559-439-9700  
Facsimile: 559-439-9723  
Email: info@jonathanpena.com  
Attorney for Plaintiff, John Edward Roberts

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
FRESNO DIVISION**

John Edward Roberts,

Plaintiff,

v.

Kilolo Kijakazi, Acting  
Commissioner of Social Security,

Defendant.

Case No. 1:21-cv-00462-SKO

**STIPULATION FOR THE AWARD  
AND PAYMENT OF ATTORNEY  
FEES AND EXPENSES PURSUANT  
TO THE EQUAL ACCESS TO  
JUSTICE ACT; ORDER**

(Doc. 20)

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED by and between the parties through their undersigned counsel, subject to the approval of the Court, that Plaintiff be awarded attorney fees and expenses in the amount of SIX THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED FORTY-EIGHT DOLLARS AND 29/100 (\$6,848.29) under the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA), 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d). This amount represents compensation for all legal services rendered on behalf of Plaintiff by counsel in connection with this civil action, in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d).

After the Court issues an order for EAJA fees to Plaintiff, the government will consider the matter of Plaintiff's assignment of EAJA fees to counsel. Pursuant to

1 *Astrue v. Ratliff*, 560 U.S. 586, 598, 130 S.Ct. 2521, 177 L.Ed.2d 91 (2010), the ability  
2 to honor the assignment will depend on whether the fees are subject to any offset  
3 allowed under the United States Department of the Treasury's Offset Program. After  
4 the order for EAJA fees is entered, the government will determine whether they are  
5 subject to any offset.

6 Fees shall be made payable to Plaintiff, but if the Department of the Treasury  
7 determines that Plaintiff does not owe a federal debt, then the government shall cause  
8 the payment of fees, expenses and costs to be made directly to Counsel, pursuant to  
9 the assignment executed by Plaintiff. Any payments made shall be delivered to  
10 Plaintiff's counsel, Jonathan O. Peña.

11 This stipulation constitutes a compromise settlement of Plaintiff's request for  
12 EAJA attorney fees, and does not constitute an admission of liability on the part of  
13 Defendant under the EAJA or otherwise. Payment of the agreed amount shall  
14 constitute a complete release from, and bar to, any and all claims that Plaintiff and/or  
15 Counsel including Counsel's firm may have relating to EAJA attorney fees in  
16 connection with this action.

17 This award is without prejudice to the rights of Counsel and/or Counsel's firm  
18 to seek Social Security Act attorney fees under 42 U.S.C. § 406(b), subject to the  
19 savings clause provisions of the EAJA.

20 Respectfully submitted,

21  
22 Dated: May 24, 2022

/s/ Jonathan O. Peña

JONATHAN O. PEÑA

Attorney for Plaintiff

23  
24  
25 Dated: May 24, 2022

PHILLIP A. TALBERT

United States Attorney

PETER K. THOMPSON

Acting Regional Chief Counsel, Region IX

Social Security Administration

By: \* Sarah E. Preston

Sarah E. Preston

Special Assistant U.S. Attorney

Attorneys for Defendant

(\*Permission to use electronic signature  
obtained via email on May 24, 2022).

**ORDER**

Based upon the parties' foregoing "STIPULATION FOR THE AWARD AND  
PAYMENT OF ATTORNEY FEES AND EXPENSES PURSUANT TO THE EQUAL  
ACCESS TO JUSTICE ACT" (Doc. 20) (the "Stipulation"),

**IT IS ORDERED** that fees and expenses in the amount of SIX THOUSAND  
EIGHT HUNDRED FORTY-EIGHT DOLLARS AND 29/100 (\$6,848.29) as authorized  
by the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA), 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d), be awarded subject to  
the terms of the Stipulation.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: May 25, 2022

/s/ Sheila K. Oberto  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE